

Lakewood Community Relations Commission (LCRAC)

Virtual Meeting February 11, 2021

Attendees: Camille Bragg, Neil Chavan, Rachel Donaldson, Melissa Garrett, Tracy Greenberg, Jon Gromek, Gwendolyn Holden-Seckers, Jasany Jenkins, Anastasia (Stacy) Loejos, Lise Stevens, Ella Sutcliffe, Walter Wright

Absent: Tariq Ata, Robin Beavers, Lise Stevens

Meeting called to order by Walter Wright (WW), Chair of LCRAC at 6:35 p.m.

1. Old Business

- a. Minutes Approval: Motion to defer approval of January minutes to next meeting made by Tracy Greenberg (TG), seconded by Ella Sutcliffe (ES).
- b. COVID-19 Update: Melissa Garrett (MG) provided information on vaccination within the county and city. The state of Ohio is controlling the rollout. Covid numbers are down but there is still a long way to go. Lakewood teachers will be vaccinated this month and the 1-C group currently has priority for the vaccinations WW asked about impact on city's revenue and MG noted that Lakewood continues to fare better than other communities because of thoughtful and cautious spending choices.

2. Updates

- a. Youth Council Update: MG said that the Youth Council met at the end of January with new members and are planning a virtual event for late spring. The Youth Council is a diverse group of young people made up of 15 community members of various backgrounds, ethnicities, and abilities.
- c. ADA Task Force Update: TG reported that they will convene on February 24, 2021 with seven members. She will provide further updates next month.
- d. Anti-Racism Task Force Update: Jasany Jenkins (JJ) reported that the Task Force is currently building rapport and camaraderie and building psychological safety, developing protocols, and creating sub committees. They are also engaging in goal-setting to move forward. WW added that he is looking forward to real policy progress that moves beyond symbolic gestures.

3. Community Outreach Survey Status Report

- a. Jon Gromek (JG) reported that as of today, the survey has 575 responses. Local media outlets have picked up the story, including The Lakewood Observer and cleveland.com. The survey closes on March 1. Neil Chavan (NC) identified a gap in

responses among < 25 year olds and asked for thoughts on how to reach that demographic as well as address the low response of renters. MG said that the city has long struggled to find effective ways to reach the renters. JG asked everyone to reach out to contacts and ask to share one more time.

- b. Next Steps: The survey data will be organized and LCRAC members will produce a report of the findings. NC, ES, and GHS are working on ways to present the information and further discussion will happen at future meetings.

4. Virtual Diversity Event 2021

JG thanked everyone for their participation and noted that LCRAC tried something new and had some success while also lifting up area restaurants. He suggested planning earlier to maximize opportunities. ES suggested a summer event as well.

5. 2019 & 2020 Annual Report to City

TG sent talking points to WW and Lise Stevens (LS) and requested information on the Welcome to Lakewood and Diversity Celebration events. At this point she will hand off the report to WW and LS. WW said we will discuss the timing of the presentation at the next meeting.

6. Announcements

WW thanked LCRAC for their activity during this period of meeting virtually and noted his appreciation for so much community-building activity amidst the pandemic.

7. Adjournment

JJ motioned to adjourn; RD seconded the motion. WW adjourned the meeting at 7:24p.m.

Upcoming LCRAC Meetings:

March 11, 2021

April 8, 2021

May 13, 2021

Minutes prepared by GHS